



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

JUN 14 2016

Mr. Darren Bailey

Iola, IL 62838

RE: MUR 7007

Dear Mr. Bailey:

The Federal Election Commission, the regulatory agency that administers and enforces the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"), received a complaint alleging violations of the Act or Commission regulations. A copy of that complaint is enclosed. It appears that your activities may fall within the scope of one of the alleged violations described in the complaint. You therefore are being provided this notice of the complaint and an opportunity to respond to its allegations, if you wish to do so. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(1).

Specifically, the complaint alleges that Total Grain Marketing, LLC of Casey, Illinois made an excessive contribution to the Kyle McCarter for Congress Committee in the amount of \$10,008.69 on or about November 23, 2015. Available information, however, indicates that you may have made the contribution of \$10,008.69 that was attributed to Total Grain Marketing, LLC. This amount appears to be in excess of the applicable contribution limits under the Act and Commission regulations. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 30116(a)(1)(A) and 11 C.F.R. § 110.1(b). These circumstances may also implicate the Act's prohibition on making contributions in the name of another person. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 30122 and 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b).

The Office of General Counsel is reviewing this information to determine whether we should recommend to the Commission that there is reason to believe that you violated the Act or Commission regulations. A "reason to believe" finding is not a finding that any person violated the Act; rather, it means only that the Commission believes a violation may have occurred. In the event the Commission finds that there is reason to believe, it may authorize the Office of General Counsel to conduct an investigation to determine whether, in fact, a violation occurred or to assess the scope of the alleged violation. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(2).

Before we make a recommendation to the Commission, we offer you the opportunity to provide in writing a response to the allegations in the complaint. Should you choose to respond, you may also submit any materials — including documents or affidavits from persons with relevant knowledge — that you believe may be relevant or

useful to the Commission's consideration of this matter. The Commission will take into account any additional information you provide in determining whether to find reason to believe that you violated the Act or Commission regulations.

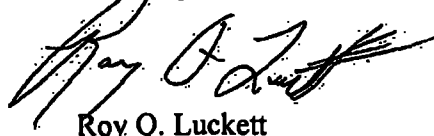
Your response, if you choose to make one, must be submitted in writing within 15 days of this letter's receipt. You should address any response to the Office of General Counsel, and the response should reference MUR 7007. After 15 days, we will make our recommendations to the Commission. The Commission will then consider the recommendations and take appropriate action.

This matter will remain confidential unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the matter to be made public. See 52 U.S.C. §§ 30109(a)(4)(B) and 30109(a)(12). If you intend to be represented by counsel in this matter, please complete the enclosed form and return it to the Commission. Please be advised that, although the Commission cannot disclose information regarding an investigation to the public, it may share information on a confidential basis with other law enforcement agencies.¹

You are required to preserve all documents, records, and materials relating to the subject matter of the complaint until we notify you that the Commission has closed its file in this matter. See 18 U.S.C. § 1519.

If you have any questions, please call me at (202) 694-1650 or toll free at 1-800-424-9530. Information is also available on the Commission's website, www.fec.gov.

Sincerely,



Roy Q. Lockett
Attorney

¹ The Commission has the statutory authority to refer knowing and willful violations of the Act to the Department of Justice for potential criminal prosecution, 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(5)(C), and to report information regarding violations of law not within its jurisdiction to appropriate law enforcement authorities. *Id.* § 30107(a)(9).